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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

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DIRECTOR

DATE: October 31, 2007

TO: Senate Judiciary Committee Members
House Judiciary Committee Members
Senate Judiciary and Corrections Appropriations Subcommittee Members
House Corrections Appropriations Subcommittee Members

FROM: Heidi Washington
Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: Report on Parole Absconders

Pursuant to the requirements of MCL 791.240(4) (Public Act 487 of 2006), the Department of Corrections submits the attached report on parole absconders. This report can be viewed at www.michigan.gov/corrections.

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REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
Pursuant to MCL 791.240(4)
Quarterly Report of Parole Absconders
October 2007

Section 4 of Public Act 487 of 2006:

“The Department shall report to the legislature on a quarterly basis both of the following:

- (a) The number of parolees who are absconders.
- (b) The number of parolees who have been absconders for more than 3 months.”

Analysis of information contained in the Department’s CMIS data base showed that:

- As of 10/18/2007, there were 2,945 parolees listed as absconders.
- Of the 2,945 absconders, 1,879 had been on abscond status for more than 90 days.

It is worth noting that while the number of absconders has grown since the last report, the rate per 1,000 parolees remains lower because the overall parole population has grown as well. In addition, the average time at large has been declining, and 91% of these cases are Very Low, Low or Middle risk for assaultive behavior on parole.

It is also worth noting that 75% of all absconders were placed on that status within the past fifteen months, demonstrating that most cases are resolved within a comparatively short time. Furthermore, about eight of every ten absconders are ultimately continued on parole supervision following detection; generally with a local sanction and frequently under increased terms of supervision. The principal determinant of whether an offender gets continued on parole is the assessment of risk to the public. If it is determined that the parolee does not present a significant risk of harm apart from a failure to report or an unreported move, the chances are quite high that he/she will be allowed to remain in the community, albeit with adjusted supervision requirements.